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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Response to Arguments

The rejection of claims 1-3, 5, and 7-13 based on Uno *et al.* (US 2002/0188073), Joachimi *et al.* (US 2003/0130381), and Houston *et al.* (US 2002/0190408) is maintained for reason of record and following response [see Official Action 9/16/08].

Uno *et al.* (US '073) discloses a polyester molding composition comprising 30 to 95 parts by weight PBT (¶25) , 1-30 parts by weight of polyester elastomer (¶32), and 1-30 parts by weight polycarbonate {total is 100 parts by weight} {based on total of resin} (¶ 1-2, 11-15, 20).

Uno *et al* (US '073) is silent to use of plasticizers. Dioctyl phthalate is a well know plasticizer, and Joachimi *et al.* (US '381) discloses plasticizers (¶ 117, 124) in an amount of 0 to 30 wt% (¶ 30), specifically dioctyl phthalate in a similar molding composition. Although Uno *et al.* (US '073) is silent to laser welding, the combined teachings of Uno *et al.* (US '073) and Joachimi *et al.* (US '381) would afford a PBT/PC/elastomer molding composition which would be capable of undergoing a laser welding procedure. Furthermore, Joachimi *et al.* (US '381) clearly discloses polybutylene terephthalate as a candidate for a thermoplastic laser weldable composition (¶ 42, 47-48, 50-51, 53, 102), i.e. the prior art discloses laser welding compositions comprising PBT and PC (¶ 102).

Houston *et al.* (US '408) is relied upon for production of an iso-refractive system such that light scattering between phases {thermoplastic and elastomer phases} is reduced. The scattering of light (laser light) would be problematic for a molding composition which will undergo a laser welding process.

Correspondence

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL PEPITONE whose telephone number is (571)270-3299. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 7:30-5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Eashoo can be reached on 571-272-1197. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Mark Eashoo/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1796

MFP
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